

the Appropriations Committee, Mr. LEWIS.

Mr. LEWIS of California. I very much appreciate my colleague's yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this legislation because it will greatly benefit the thousands of veterans in my district and the greater Inland Empire.

With the passage of this bill, the Jerry Pettis Veterans Medical Center will begin the process of establishing a new health care center. This new 271,000-square-foot facility will directly benefit veterans of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties by increasing access to care, expanding services, and reducing wait times.

I would like to thank the staff of the Jerry Pettis VA Hospital for their very hard work and the fine service they're providing to veterans in our region.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, this bill contains needed authorizations requested by the VA, and it is important that we move this legislation forward quickly.

I urge my colleagues to support S. 1717.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 1717.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I think the importance of this bill and its quick passage has been proven by all the speakers.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 1717. Within this request is funding for the Veterans Health Care Center in Charlotte, NC.

We currently have a Community-Based Outpatient Clinic that cannot meet the demands of our growing veteran population. Based on VA numbers, our veteran population is slated to increase 31 percent between 2007 and 2025.

This new Health Care Center will help the VA expand its service offerings in our area, and offer new ones which means that our veterans will not have to travel out of our area for the services they need.

We cannot thank our men and women in uniform—and their families for the sacrifices they make in defending our country. However, with this new Health Care Center in Charlotte, we can ensure that they are taken care of in a matter which fits their dedication and service.

Mr. FILNER. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1717.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REX E. LEE POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3547) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 936 South 250 East in Provo, Utah, as the "Rex E. Lee Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3547

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REX E. LEE POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 936 South 250 East in Provo, Utah, shall be known and designated as the "Rex E. Lee Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Rex E. Lee Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the subcommittee with jurisdiction over the United States Postal Service, I am proud to present H.R. 3547 for consideration. This legislation designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 936 South 250 East Street in Provo, Utah, as the "Rex E. Lee Post Office Building."

The measure before us was introduced on September 10 by my friend and colleague, Ranking Member JASON CHAFFETZ of Utah, and it was favorably reported out of the Oversight Committee on September 24, 2009, by unanimous consent. In addition, this measure enjoys the full support of the Utah House delegation.

Since it is the legislation sponsored by my friend, I will allow him to fill in the details.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of the H.R. 3547, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 936 South 250 East Street in Provo,

Utah, as the "Rex E. Lee Post Office Building".

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I happen to know Mr. Lee, as he served as the president of Brigham Young University. He was a great and amazing human being. All too often in our society we hope that our kids will emulate somebody of significance, and Rex Lee was certainly that kind of person.

He was a joy. He was full of life at every step and one of the smartest people you could ever meet. In fact, he had many dealings with the Supreme Court. In fact, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said this about the passing of Rex Lee: "He inspired all of us with his courage in the face of a terminal illness. Knowing him was one of the greatest privileges of my life. Remembering him will be one of the easiest."

Amazing words from an amazing person.

In 1960, Rex Lee graduated with a BA from Brigham Young University. He served as the student body president. In 1963, Rex graduated first in his class from the University of Chicago Law School, and from law school he went on to serve as a law clerk for Byron White, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

From Washington, D.C., he returned to his home in the State of Arizona as a partner in the Phoenix law firm of Jennings, Strouss & Salmon. While there, Rex argued his first case in the United States Supreme Court just 4 years after graduating from law school.

In 1972, Rex returned to Brigham Young University to become the founding dean of the J. Reuben Clark Law School. From 1975 to 1976, he served as an assistant Attorney General in charge of the civil division in the United States Department of Justice; and from 1981 to 1985, Mr. Lee served as Solicitor General of the United States of America.

In 1986, Mr. Lee retired as Solicitor General and returned to Brigham Young University. He was diagnosed with cancer shortly thereafter. Mr. Lee practiced law with Sidley & Austin law firm and returned to teaching constitutional law at the George Sutherland Chair of Law at the J. Reuben Clark Law School.

Mr. Lee was then named the 10th president of Brigham Young University on May 12, 1989, and served in this capacity until December of 1995, just 2½ months before he passed away.

All told, he argued 59 cases before the Supreme Court and won 23 of the 30 cases he argued as the Solicitor General. In fact, he was preparing for his 60th case just months before he passed away.

He's known throughout the community in Utah for his great humility, for his great contribution to the United States of America. In fact, five Supreme Court Justices attended a memorial service for Rex Lee: Byron White, Justices John Paul Stevens,

David H. Souter, Sandra Day O'Connor, and Clarence Thomas.

This is a great man. He's worthy of recognition of the United States Congress, and it's my honor to stand here and encourage the passage of this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague's support of this bill and authorship and thank him for his energy on behalf of this measure.

The object of H.R. 3547, as my friend has indicated, will dedicate the United States Postal Service facility in Provo, Utah, to the life and legacy of Mr. Rex Lee.

Mr. Lee dedicated his entire life to serving others, as my friend has noted. In 1972 he left a very promising legal career as a partner at the prestigious Arizona law firm of Jennings, Strouss & Salmon to become the founding dean of the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University.

It's no exaggeration to say that Mr. Lee's hard work as the law school's first dean really and truly put it on a track to become one of today's top American law schools.

After a successful tenure at the J. Reuben Clark Law School, Mr. Lee entered the field of public service, began his career as an assistant Attorney General in charge of the civil division of the United States Department of Justice from 1975 to 1976, and then went on to serve as Solicitor General for the United States from 1981 to 1985.

As Solicitor General, Mr. Lee was able to focus his attention on his favorite legal practice area: litigation. And he argued several cases before the United States Supreme Court.

During his time as America's Solicitor General, Mr. Lee developed a distinct and enduring reputation as a man of principle. In fact, he was so passionate that up until the time of his death Mr. Lee was still in the midst of preparation for arguing another case before the Supreme Court.

After resigning from his position as Solicitor General, Mr. Lee returned to Brigham Young University in 1986; and shortly thereafter, he was regrettably diagnosed with cancer. Following a year of medical treatment and therapy, Mr. Lee recovered for a time and was named president of BYU. He served the Brigham Young University community with distinction from July 1, 1989, through December 31, 1995, leaving the position 2½ months before he passed away on March 11, 1996.

Although Mr. Lee is no longer with us, his memory lives on through his wife, Janet, his seven children, 10 grandchildren, and all of those who were fortunate enough to know him.

As my friend, Mr. CHAFFETZ from Utah, has noted, Mr. Lee earned the great respect of quite a few people at the United States Supreme Court, and those quotes have been included.

In closing, I wholeheartedly support this measure, and I urge all of my colleagues to join with Mr. CHAFFETZ, the gentleman from Utah, and myself in favor of voting for H.R. 3547.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. I would simply thank Mr. LYNCH for his kind words, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, in closing I encourage all of my friends on both sides of the aisle to join with Mr. CHAFFETZ, the gentleman from Utah, and myself in honoring the life of Rex Lee by voting in favor of H.R. 3547.

I yield back the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3547.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CLYDE HICHBORN POST OFFICE

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2174) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 18 Main Street in Howland, Maine, as the "Clyde Hichborn Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2174

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CLYDE HICHBORN POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 18 Main Street in Howland, Maine, shall be known and designated as the "Clyde Hichborn Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Clyde Hichborn Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. LYNCH. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to present H.R. 2174 for consideration.

This measure will designate the United States Postal Service facility located at 18 Main Street in Howland, Maine, as the "Clyde Hichborn Post Office".

Introduced by my friend and colleague, Representative MICHAEL

MICHAUD of Maine, on April 29, 2009, and reported out of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee on May 6, 2009, by unanimous consent, H.R. 2174 enjoys the support of the entire Maine House delegation.

Born on August 29, 1920, Clyde Hichborn dedicated over 60 years of his life to public service. A distinguished veteran of the United States Army, Mr. Hichborn served during World War II, including a 2-year tour in the European theater as captain in the Adjutant General Corps.

Additionally, after receiving his bachelor's degree in education and a master's degree in school administration, Mr. Hichborn served his local community in the town of Howland as a long-time superintendent of schools. Notably, the Hichborn Middle School in Howland was named in his honor for his admirable service in the field of education.

Mr. Hichborn's dedication to his local community also included service as a town selectman, a town manager, and subsequently, a State legislator. Specifically, Mr. Hichborn's tenure in the Maine State Legislature included eight terms in the Maine House of Representatives, one term in the Maine State Senate, and service on the joint standing committees on education, transportation, appropriations, economic development, and State and local government.

Mr. Hichborn's legislative efforts in the Maine State House reflected his prior experience as an educator and town official. Mr. Hichborn focused his attention on school funding and improvements as well as enhancing the local business environment.

In addition to his distinguished career in public service, Mr. Hichborn is also fondly remembered for his love of adventure and his willingness to confront any challenge. In 1980, Mr. Hichborn embarked on a 7-hour climb to the top of Mt. Katahdin, the highest peak in the State of Maine, on his 80th birthday.

Regrettably, Mr. Hichborn passed away on March 31, 2005, at the age of 94.

Mr. Speaker, let us honor this outstanding public servant through the passage of this bill, which designates the Howland Post Office in honor of Clyde Hichborn. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2174.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I just simply want to rise in support of H.R. 2174, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 18 Main Street in Howland, Maine, as the "Clyde Hichborn Post Office". He's a great American and a great public servant.

I rise in support of H.R. 2174, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 18 Main Street in Howland, Maine, as the "Clyde Hichborn Post Office".

A life long resident of Medford, Maine, Clyde Hichborn served his state and country